

# Nominations Sought for Governor's Youth Volunteer Service Awards

NEW CASTLE (March 15, 2018) – Nominations for the Governor's Youth Volunteer Service Awards are being accepted by the State Office of Volunteerism through Friday, April 13, 2018.

These awards recognize the important contributions Delaware's youth volunteers, age 17 and younger, make to their communities in the areas of arts and culture, community service, education, environment, health, human needs, public service and social justice/advocacy.

"Every year, young Delawareans across our state volunteer their time in service of others. These awards are about recognizing their contributions, spotlighting their service, and encouraging even more Delawareans to volunteer and make a difference in their communities," said Governor John Carney. "Our communities are better places to live, work, and play because of volunteers of every age."



A group of young volunteers paint the bottom of a light pole at Belmont Hall in Smyrna.

Nominations must be received by Friday, April 13, 2018, by the State Office of Volunteerism, Attn: Governor's Volunteer Service Awards, c/o April Willey, Williams State Service Center, 805 River Road, Dover, DE 19901 or emailed to [dhss\\_VolunteerDelaware@delaware.gov](mailto:dhss_VolunteerDelaware@delaware.gov).

The nomination form is available on <https://volunteer.delaware.gov>. Nominators may also request a nomination form by emailing [dhss\\_VolunteerDelaware@delaware.gov](mailto:dhss_VolunteerDelaware@delaware.gov) or calling (302) 857-5006. Prior to submission, you may email the nomination form for review and feedback to confirm nomination submission is complete and meets all required guidelines.

Award recipients will be honored on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at a special ceremony at Polytech Adult Education Conference Center, 823 Walnut Shade Road, Woodside.

Volunteer efforts must have been performed during 2017; though prior volunteer activity can also be highlighted to show long-term commitment. The nominated individuals and group members must be age 17 or younger.

"In 2017, 2,658 Delawareans of all ages volunteered through community partners with the State Office of Volunteerism, contributing more than 700,000 hours of service to nonprofit and community organizations," said Dr. Kara Odom Walker, Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services. "If you were to add up the total value of those services to Delaware and its residents, it would be more than \$17 million. That level of commitment to our communities is another way we are building a stronger and healthier Delaware."

The Governor's Youth Volunteer Service Awards are sponsored by the Office of the Governor and are coordinated by the State Office of Volunteerism and the Governor's Commission on Community and Volunteer Service.

For more information about the awards or volunteer

opportunities, go to <https://volunteer.delaware.gov>, or contact April Willey, Volunteer Service Administrator, at 302-857-5006 or via email [april.willey@delaware.gov](mailto:april.willey@delaware.gov).

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*The Department of Health and Social Services is committed to improving the quality of life of Delaware's citizens by promoting health and well-being, fostering self-sufficiency, and protecting vulnerable populations.*